

2026 PARADE APPLICATION

VIKING FEST PARADE APPLICATION 2026

Since 1969, Poulsbo has celebrated Viking Fest, a tribute to its Norwegian ancestors and a celebration of Norwegian Constitution Day, May 17. This year's celebration takes place May 15–17, 2026. Events taking place during the three days include: Opening Ceremony, Road Race, Food Booths, Entertainment at the Pavilion, Donut Eating Contest, Vikings, and much, much more, including the parade.

VIKING FEST PARADE

The parade is held on Saturday, May 16, at 2:00 p.m. All parade participants must have some form of Norwegian design to their floats and/or dress (marching bands/units and drill teams with uniforms may carry the Norwegian flag to stay with the theme). The Poulsbo Library has research materials available to help in this endeavor.

The Viking Fest Corporation has established the guidelines for this year's parade as we strive to upgrade the event, make it safer, and increase entertainment value for spectators. Please review the attached rules, regulations, and policies before you return your entry form. Entries are due no later than April 15, and you will be notified by email by May 1 of your group placement. Entry forms not filled out completely will be returned. As we are receiving more entries each year, the total number of entries will be limited, and all late entries will be placed on a priority list. If your entry is received after April 15, a late fee of \$150.00 will be added. Any entries received after May 1 require a \$200.00 fee. As you can see, it pays to get your entry in now. This year there will be a limit on commercial vehicles of one per entry. If you wish to have more than one, there will be a charge of \$175.00 per vehicle, with a limit of four. (If you are a sponsor, this does not apply—contact us about being a sponsor.) Car clubs will also have a limit of 10 cars per club this year.

All entries will be reviewed by the Corporation. Priority will be given to themes reflecting our Norwegian heritage, Scandinavian-focused music, dance and costumes, music groups and clowns, and overall entertainment and audience appeal. The Corporation reserves the right to reject or cancel any entrant at any time should it be determined that the entry detracts from the basic purpose of the parade.

RETURNING GROUPS

We welcome you back to our wonderful city, as you are the reason our parade is a success.

NEW ENTRIES

We cordially invite you to participate in a day of jubilant celebration of which the parade is an important part. There is no entry fee as long as your entry is submitted on time. Any questions? Vikingfest.org

PRELIMINARY APPLICATION/INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

SUBMIT DEADLINE: April 15, 2026

Name of Entry: _____

Float Theme: _____

Person in Charge of Entry: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

PLEASE CHECK THE TYPE OF UNIT YOU ARE REQUESTING TO ENTER AND THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS:

Marching Band High School _____ Jr. High _____

Other _____

Drill Team High School _____ Jr. High _____

Other _____

Commercial _____ Non-Commercial _____

Equestrian Entry _____ Scout Troop _____

Royalty _____

NOTE: IF YOUR ORGANIZATION CARRIES LIABILITY INSURANCE (BODILY INJURY AND PROPERTY DAMAGE) WITH A LIMIT OF ONE MILLION DOLLARS – YOU MUST HAVE VIKING FEST CORPORATION AND THE CITY OF POULSBO ADDED AS ADDITIONAL INSURED, AT NO COST TO EITHER.

HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

Must be signed by the person in charge.

I/We assume all risk of bodily injury, property damage, and personal injury that I/we may incur in participating in the Viking Fest parade on May 16, 2026, in Poulsbo, Washington. I/we, for myself/ourselves, my/our child/children, my/our heirs, executors, and administrators, do hereby forever waive and release any and all claims against and agree to hold harmless the Viking Fest Parade, Viking Fest Corporation, the City of Poulsbo, and all their respective officers, employees, agents, representatives, successors, or assigns of any kind from any and all claims which may be made for any cause whatsoever arising as a result of or in connection with the participation of me/us and my/our child/children in the herein mentioned event.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

BY SIGNING AND DATING THIS AGREEMENT, I/WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I/WE HAVE READ, FULLY UNDERSTAND, AND AGREE TO ALL OF THE TERMS STATED AND THAT I/WE ARE AUTHORIZED TO DO SO. IT IS FURTHER AGREED THAT THIS HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT COVERS ALL PARTICIPANTS IN MY/OUR UNIT AND THAT INDIVIDUAL AGREEMENTS ARE NOT NECESSARY.

Signature & Title: _____ Date Signed: _____

PLEASE MAIL 2-4 COPIES OF THIS FORM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO THE ADDRESS LISTED:

VIKING FEST CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 1125
POULSBO, WA 98370

VIKING FEST PARADE POLICIES

I. GENERAL

A. There are no entry fees for the Viking Fest Parade as long as the application is postmarked no later than April 20, 2026. If the entry is postmarked after April 20, 2026, then it must be accompanied by a \$150.00 registration fee; entries postmarked after May 1, 2026 require a \$200.00 registration fee. All checks for late fees should be made out to Viking Fest Corporation.

Commercial vehicles will be limited to one per entry, with a \$175.00 charge for each additional vehicle (up to four total). Sponsors are exempt; call for sponsor information.

B. All parade units are selected by the Corporation, which reserves the right to accept, reject, or cancel an entry at any time. (Entries are by invitation only and must be approved by the Corporation.)

C. Applications for each entry must be completed in full in order to be accepted as an authorized entrant. If more than one float/vehicle/marching unit/etc. per organization is to be entered, a separate sheet identifying each additional unit for that organization must accompany the application—otherwise, only one unit per organization is allowed. This will be strictly enforced on the day of the parade.

If candy, flyers, etc. are to be given out, they cannot be thrown; they must be handed out along the sidelines. This is for the safety of spectators.

II. FLOATS

Float themes should be individual and must in some way relate to the theme of Viking Fest. If the float is towed by a separate vehicle, that vehicle must also be decorated.

III. BANDS

Bands will be judged on the parade route in one of the categories below. Band directors need to ensure that they are ready to perform in front of the judges for no longer than 1 minute during the parade judging.

1. High School
2. Junior High School
3. Other (specialty)

IV. DRILL TEAMS

Drill teams will be judged on the parade route in one of the categories below. Team leaders need to ensure that they are ready to perform in front of the judges for no longer than 1 minute during the parade judging.

1. High School
2. Junior High School
3. Other (specialty)

V. EQUESTRIAN UNITS

All equestrian units must provide their own clean-up crews for the assembly, parade route, and dispersal areas. All riders must be 18 and over and experienced parade riders.

VI. SPECIALTY UNITS

Entries other than floats, bands, drill teams, and equestrian units are designated as specialty entries. They include, but are not limited to, walking groups, clowns, pageant winners, novelty units, Grand Marshal, honorary guests, and police and fire units.

VII. LATE ENTRIES

All applications for entry in the Viking Fest Parade must be received by the specified deadline. Entry applications received after the deadline will be placed on a waiting list, but consideration will still be based on entertainment value and quality.

VIII. RULES AND REGULATIONS

Rules and regulations are established for each entry division. These will be sent upon acceptance into the parade, along with directions and parade placement. Disregard of these rules at any time before or during the parade may, at the discretion of the Corporation and parade officials, result in elimination of that entry. Future invitations may be jeopardized. Once you have received and reviewed the rules and regulations, a written letter of request to the Corporation must be made for any variations requested. Consideration will be given to your request, but it is not guaranteed. It is the responsibility of each unit to ensure that they are fully aware of all policies, rules, and regulations of the parade. Ignorance is not a justifiable excuse.

IX. INSURANCE

If your unit carries liability, bodily injury, and property damage insurance, the following must be named as additional insured for the duration of the parade only, at no cost to Viking Fest Corporation:

1. Viking Fest Corporation
2. City of Poulsbo